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Honorable Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RE: Union Pacific Railroad Abandonment in Lafayette County, Missouri, AB-33 *Sub 297X*

Dear Mrs. Quinlan:

This request is filed on behalf of the City of Lexington which is a political subdivision interested in transportation, natural resources, conservation and recreation, etc., which is hereinafter referred to as "proponent".

While not taking a position on the merits of this abandonment, proponent requests issuance of a Certificate or Notice of Interim Trail Use rather than an outright abandonment authorization between endpoint milepost 246.49 near Myrick and endpoint milepost 243.58 near Lexington in Lafayette County, Missouri.

In a decision served March 29, 2011 in AB-33 (Sub-No. 297X), Union Pacific Railroad Company – Abandonment Exemption – in Lafayette County, Mo., the Board granted the City of Lexington, Mo's request for a public use condition but denied its request for a Notice of Interim Trail Use, for two reasons. First, Union Pacific had not filed a response indicating its willingness to negotiate for interim trail use. Second, the Board determined that the City's statement of willingness did not conform to the requirements of the Trails Act and the Board's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Section 1152.29.

Union Pacific has now told the City that it is willing to negotiate for interim trail use. Also, the City is now in a position to state its willingness to assume financial responsibility as per the Board's regulations. Accordingly, the City of Lexington requests that the Board accept this late filed request for imposition of a Notice of Interim Trail Use. The City requests that the NITU cover the entire line approved for abandonment, being the Lexington Industrial Lead extending from milepost 246.49 near Myrick to milepost 243.58 near Lexington, in Lafayette County, Mo.

Interim Trail Use – The railroad right-of-way in this proceeding is suitable for railbanking. The proponent also makes the following request:

STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In order to establish interim trail use and railbanking under Section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d), and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29, the City of Lexington is willing to assume full responsibility for management of , for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of said right-of-way, to the extent permissible by law, and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned by Union Pacific Railroad Company and operated by the same company.

The property, known as the Lexington Industrial Lead extends from railroad milepost 246.49 near Myrick to railroad milepost 243.58 near Lexington a distance of 2.31 miles in Lafayette County, Missouri. The right-of-way is part of a line of railroad proposed for abandonment in STB Docket No. AB-33 (297x). A map depicting the right-of-way is attached.

The City of Lexington acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's ability to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service.

By my signature below, I certify service upon Union Pacific Railroad, 1400 Douglas St. Stop 1580, Omaha, NE 68179-1580.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jerry E. Brown, Mayor
On Behalf of the City of Lexington**